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## Twenty-third Judicial District Court of Louisiana

Parishes of Ascension, Assumption, St. James

Patricia H. Douglas  
Hearing Officer  
Administrator

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Louisiana Board of Ethics  
P.O. Box 4368  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am the Administrator for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District Court comprised of Ascension, Assumption and St. James parishes. The judges of the 23<sup>rd</sup> JDC are seeking an advisory opinion regarding the following:

We had a court reporter who was exclusively assigned to Division D of our court. As of January 1, 2021 she is no longer employed by our court. We would like to be able to contract with her occasionally to assist us as a substitute or ad hoc court report for our divisions other than D. She would receive a 1099 at the end of the year for her work.

I am aware of the post employment restrictions contained in Section 1121 of the Code of Governmental Ethics; however, it is my understanding that the restriction is limited to the former employee's "agency".

Each judge of the 23<sup>rd</sup> JDC has his own secretary, court reporter and bailiff. Clearly this court reporter would be prohibited from doing any work in Division D or on any cases on which she previously worked, but would she be allowed to work on a contractual basis performing court reporting services to other divisions?

On behalf of the judges of the 23<sup>rd</sup> JDC, I respectfully request a written advisory opinion as to this matter.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Very Truly Yours,

  
Patricia H. Douglas  
Court Administrator

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